

east, from the prairie states as well as from the mountains. It is to be regretted that the characteristics of the families are so brief as to give the student little idea of what the families really are. All that is said as to the characters of the Buttercup Family is that it contains "flowers with separate sepals and petals, often in an indefinite number" and of the Mallow Family that the flowers have "five partly-fused sepals and five large petals." The chapter on ornamental plants gives a surprising amount of information in less than twenty pages.

The book is illustrated with over three hundred figures—some half tones, most line drawings—usually two to six of the latter grouped in one figure. The half tones are most of them poorly reproduced, lacking in detail and pleasing qualities. The drawings, except for the maps and diagrams, are crude, in a few cases inaccurate, and fail to give an idea of the plants illustrated.

The manner of treatment of the various topics makes the book one that can be read with interest by anyone and it should appeal to the average student. Used by a teacher enthusiastic for this type of plant study it will help to create a lasting interest in the plants used or enjoyed by everyone. Enough is given of structure and function to enable students to go on into courses in morphology, physiology and taxonomy. In general the book is well adapted to do what the authors planned—"appeal to the cultural interests of the general student, acting as a survey of plant science and building at the same time a substantial foundation for further botanical study." And, in addition, it will be of value as a reference work on economic plants.

GEORGE T. HASTINGS

Nature Lore Books

The American Book of the Woods, \$2.00, and Learn the Trees from Leaf Prints, \$1.00, Davis S. Marx. The Botanic Publishing Co., Cincinnati, 1940.

The American Book of the Woods was designed primarily for use in camp activities and school projects, but its appeal is not confined to these groups. Any nature studying groups, such as Girl or Boy Scouts, would find this book full of very usable information. It is divided into three major parts, Utility Materials, Foods and Beverages, and Poisonous or Medicinal Plants.

The Utility Materials division includes Fire Lore, Water Lore, Basketry and Binding, Stains and Dyes, and many other things. The Foods and Beverages division gives information on edible roots, pot-herbs, edible seeds, nuts, fruits, berries, etc. Division III tells the plants used medicinally for first aid, for astringents, as well as those which are noxious or poisonous.

The correlation of plants and trees with their uses and the accurate leaf plates make this a most interesting and useful volume for all nature group leaders.

"Learn the Trees from Leaf Prints" was designed as a supplement to personal guidance and as an encouragement where technical knowledge is hard to obtain or too tedious to make tree study a pleasure. About 195 leaf prints are included. They give an accurate portrayal of the leaves. They indicate the typical leaf of the kind of tree from which they were taken. They show the average length of stem, the lobing or indentations, the venations, and sometimes even the texture of the leaf. This is the fun way to acquaint yourself with the trees.

MARGARET O. BONISTEEL

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 4, 1941

The meeting was called to order at the American Museum of Natural History by the President, Dr. John S. Karling, at 8:15 P.M.

Fifty-two members and guests were present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

It was voted that the Secretary admit the following by unanimous ballot to membership in the Club: As annual members: Mrs. Roy A. Hunt, 4875 Ellsworth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Dr. Ernst C. Abbe, Dept. Botany, Univ. Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.; Mr. Willy Ley, 304 W. 24th St., New York, N. Y.; Dr. Angel L. Cabrera, Museo de La Plata, Argentina; Miss Lena Bondurant Henderson, Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Lynchburg, Va.; Dr. F. C. Hoehne, Rua Theodoro Sampaio, no. 632, Sao Paulo, Brazil; Rev. Dr. Theodore C. Petersen, St. Paul's College, Brookland, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Clifton C. Doak, Box B—F. E., A. & M. College of Texas, College Station, Tex.;